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In re Application of :  
Richard A. DIXON et al. :  
Application No. 10/659,755 :  
Filed: September 10, 2003 :  
Attorney Docket No. NBLE:007US :  
DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed October 28, 2008, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to timely file a reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 to the final Office action of April 21, 2008. The proposed reply required for consideration of a petition to revive must be a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 41.20(b)(2), an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance, a Request for Continued Examination and submission (37 CFR 1.114), or the filing of a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b). See MPEP 711.03(c)(III)(A)(2). No extensions of time pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the date of abandonment of this application is July 22, 2008..

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and fee of \$405.00, and the submission required by 37 CFR 1.114; (2) the petition fee of \$810.00; and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay. Accordingly, the reply to the final Office action of April 21, 2008 is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Since the \$555.00 extension of time fee submitted with the petition on October 28, 2008 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-4231.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 1638 for processing of the RCE and for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the amendment submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.114.

Michelle R. Eason  
Paralegal Specialist  
Office of Petition